

Message Text

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SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

GENEVA FOR KRAUS AND DAVIS

INFO FOR PAOS

1. HIGHLIGHTS. WEEK-END AND MONDAY PAPERS FRONTPAGED
DEVELOPMENTS RE CAMBODIA AND BOMBING. SATURDAY WASHPOST
INSIDE HAD TRIDENT FUNDS RESTORED; ALSO SEN. JACKSON PRO-
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POSES TROOP-CUT PACTS. SATURDAY PAPERS ALSO HAD COMMON-
WEALTH PREMIERS CONDEMN NUCLEAR TESTING.

1A. RECENT COMMENT INCLUDES EDITORIALS ON TROOPS IN

EUROPE, ALSO JACK ANDERSON ON NUKES AND MAFIA.

2. DEFENSE. SATURDAY WASHPOST UPI REPORTED SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE REVERSING AN EARLIER 59 PERCENT SLASH IN TRIDENT MISSILE SUBMARINE PROGRAM, VOTED AGAIN FRIDAY APPROVING BY 8 TO 7 VOTE THE FULL RESTORATION FOR TRIDENT. CONTROVERSIAL TRIDENT PROGRAM SAVED BY SWITCHED PROXY VOTE BY GOLDWATER WHO SAID HIS INITIAL WEDNESDAY VOTE HAD BEEN MISCAST DUE TO CLERICAL ERROR BY HIS STAFF.

2A. SUNDAY NYTIMES REVIEW SECTION FINNEY OBSERVED CONGRESS, REARED ON LESSONS OF COLD WAR, STILL SHIES AWAY FROM SUB-

STANTIAL CUTS IN DEFENSE SPENDING, CITING HOUSE REJECTION OF VARIOUS TROOP REDUCTION AMENDMENTS AND SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE APPROVAL OF TRIDENT PROGRAM. FINNEY FORECASTS SENATE VOTE ON TRIDENT, THOUGH PROBABLY CLOSE, WILL RUN IN FAVOR OF DOD BECAUSE, SAYS FINNEY, WHEN IT COMES TO IMPORTANT ISSUES MILITARY STILL STANDS TALL AND DOMINANT IN CONGRESS. WHEN SERIOUSLY CHALLENGED, PENTAGON STILL EFFECTIVELY INVOKES ARGUMENT THAT ANY CUTS WOULD IMPERIL NATIONAL SECURITY AGAINST COMMUNIST THREAT.

3.TROOPS AND EUROPE. SATURDAY WASHPOST HAD AS TRAILER TO TRIDENT RESTORATION STORY, A WASHINGTON REUTER ITEM REPORTING SEN. JACKSON ANNOUNCED HE WILL INTRODUCE LEGISLATION AFTER AUGUST RECESS URGING PRESIDENT NIXON TO SEEK AGREEMENTS WITH EUROPEAN ALLIES TO OFFSET ANY BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS DEFICITS RESULTING FROM STATIONING US FORCES IN EUROPE. HIS PROPOSAL WOULD REQUIRE, SAYS REUTER, THAT WITHOUT SUCH AGREEMENTS BY THE END OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR US TROOPS WOULD BE REDUCED BY A PERCENTAGE EQUAL TO THE SHORTFALL, THUS IF ONLY 75 PERCENT OF THE TROOP PAYMENTS DEFICIT IS OFFSET BY THE ALLIES, US FORCES WOULD BE REDUCED BY 25 PERCENT. REUTER ADDS JACKSON SAID PROPOSAL WILL TAKE FORM OF AMENDMENT TO MILITARY PROCUREMENT UNCLASSIFIED

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AUTHORIZATION BILL.

3A. MONDAY WASHPOST HAS LETTER FROM REP. YATRON, DEM-PENN, REFERRING TO HIS PROPOSALS FOR BURDEN-SHARING WHICH WOULD REQUIRE OUR NATO ALLIES TO ASSUME A GREATER SHARE OF THE COST OF THEIR OWN DEFENSE AND ALLOW THE SUBJECT OF TROOP REDUCTIONS TO BE ANALYZED PURELY ON MILITARY GROUNDS, YATRON ADDING THAT TOTAL DEFENSE EXPENDITURES OF OUR 14 NATO PARTNERS TOTAL 28 BILLIONS AND US CONTRIBUTION TO DEFENSE OF EUROPE IS 17 BILLIONS SO AMERICANS BEAR A STAGGERING BURDEN FAR IN EXCESS OF THE BENEFITS WE RECEIVE. YATRON STRESSES US MUST ELIMINATE ITS 1.7 BILLION ANNUAL BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS DEFICIT CREATED BY OUR NATO COMMITMENT AND PROPOSES A COMMON NATO FUND TO ACCOM-

PLISH THIS. YATRON ALSO PROPOSES CHANGING THE FINANCING OF OUR MILITARY FORCES THROUGH BURDEN-SHARING, THEREBY SAVING 2.137 BILLIONS.

3B. MONDAY BALTSUN HAS BRUSSELS AP REPORTING THAT US AND ITS NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIES START LOOKING THIS WEEK FOR WAYS TO MAKE ALLIED TROOP DEPLOYMENTS IN EUROPE LESS EXPENSIVE FOR THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER, ADDING PROCESS OF SHIFTING MORE BURDEN TO EUROPEANS IS LIKELY TO TAKE SOME TIME AND THE CHANGES MAY NOT BRING HEAVY REDUCTION IN NEXT

APRIL'S AMERICAN TAX BILL BUT NIXON ADMINISTRATION IS INSISTING SOMETHING MUST BE DONE TO HAVE STRENGTHENED EUROPEAN ECONOMIES PUT OUT MORE FOR THEIR OWN DEFENSE. AP SAYS THIS WEEK NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL IS EXPECTED TO DRAFT INSTRUCTIONS FOR A WORKING GROUP TO START A FEW DAYS LATER.

4. COMMENT. CURRENT EDITORIAL DISCUSSION OF US TROOPS IN EUROPE SO FAR IS NOT SO EXTENSIVE AS THAT IN EARLY 1971 ON PRESIDENT NIXON'S PLEDGE NOT TO REDUCE OUR TROOPS IN EUROPE EXCEPT BY AGREEMENT ON MUTUAL REDUCTION; BUT EDITORIAL SENTIMENT CONTINUES TO BACK US POLICY, TO OPPOSE UNILATERAL WITHDRAWAL. TODAY 11 OUT OF 14 COMMENTING PAPERS SUPPORT US POLICY; IN 1971 SUPPORT CAME FROM 16 OUT OF 23. ELEVEN SUPPORTING PAPERS ARE: BALTSUN, CINCI UNCLASSIFIED

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ENQUIRER, DENVER POST, HARTFORD COURANT, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL, MINNEAPOLIS STAR, NYNEWS, SAN DIEGO UNION, WALL STREET JOURNAL, WASHSTAR-NEWS. THE THREE NOTED AS OPPOSING US POLICY AND FAVORING PROMPT REDUCTION ARE BOSTON GLOBE, PORTLAND OREGONIAN, ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH.

5. TESTING. SATURDAY WASHPOST HAD OTTAWA UPI REPORTING SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE REPRESENTING ALL 32 COUNTRIES UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED A DECLARATION CONDEMNING NUCLEAR TESTING. ACCORDING UPI, NEW ZEALAND PM KIRK DESCRIBED DECLARATION AS AN APPEAL TO ALL COUNTRIES TO WORK FOR AN END OF ALL TESTS; DECLARATION TEXT URGES A NEW AGREEMENT TO BRING ABOUT THE TOTAL CESSATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS IN ALL ENVIRONMENTS. UPI ADDED HEATH REPORTEDLY WOULD NOT ACCEPT ANY RESOLUTION SPECIFICALLY SINGLING OUT FRANCE, AN ALLY IN COMMART, BUT WOULD GO ALONG WITH ENDORSEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF 1963 TREATY'S PRINCIPLES WHICH IS AN INDIRECT WAY OF CRITICIZING RECENT FRENCH PACIFIC TESTS.

5A. SATURDAY NYTIMES WILLIAM BORDERS OTTAWA REPORTED TEXT WAS COMPROMISE VERSION OF WHAT HAD STARTED OUT AS A CONDEMNATION OF CHINA AND FRANCE AND FINALLY TOOK THE FORM OF A REAFFIRMATION OF THE 10-YEAR OLD TREATY BANNING ATMOSPHERIC

TESTS. BORDERS REPORTED AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND PRESSED HARD FOR A DECLARATION DEPLORING FRENCH TESTS, ONE NEW ZEALANDER SAYING THAT AT LEAST CHINESE DID IT ON THEIR OWN TERRITORY, CONTAMINATING THEIR OWN ATMOSPHERE.

5B. SUNDAY BALTSUN HEADED AUCKLAND NYTIMES DISPATCH, SHIP LEAVES FRENCH BOMB TESTING ZONE, REPORTING SHIP CANTERBURY WAS TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM FRENCH TEST SITE NEXT DAY, ADDING IT HAD BEEN DECIDED TO END THE PROTEST BECAUSE

AUSTRALIAN SHIP ACTING AS SUPPORT VESSEL HAD TO RETURN TO PORT. NEW ZEALAND DEFENSE MINISTER FAULKNER WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THIS PROTEST WOULD BE SEEN AS TURNING POINT IN CAMPAIGN AGAINST TESTING NUCLEAR WEAPONS SINCE SHIPS HAD FOCUSED WORLD ATTENTION ON TESTS, AND LABOR FEDERATION PRESIDENT SKINNER SAID CURRENT BOYCOTT OF FRENCH GOODS AND SERVICES WILL CONTINUE UNTIL FRANCE ANNOUNCES COMPLE-

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TION OF TESTS.

6. ANDERSON. FRIDAY WASHPOST JACK ANDERSON REPORTED GRAVE DANGER THAT STOLEN NUCLEAR WEAPONS MAY FALL INTO HANDS OF TERRORISTS, MAFIA GANGSTERS, BLACK MARKETEERS OR SOME LONE PSYCHOPATH, ACCORDING TO FORD FOUNDATION DRAFT REPORT AUTHORED BY PROFESSORS THEODORE TAYLOR AND WILLRICH AND STAMPED WITH WARNINGS AGAINST PUBLIC RELEASE. REPORT GUESSES THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF PERSONS WHO COULD MAKE FISSION EXPLOSIVE DEVICE AND POSSESS REQUISITE NUCLEAR MATERIAL. REPORT WARNS ONLY MATTER OF TIME BEFORE SOME TERRORIST GROUP EXPLOITS POSSIBILITIES FOR COERCION LATENT IN NUCLEAR FUEL. MAFIA MAY WANT NUCLEAR WEAPONS, SAYS REPORT, NOT ONLY FOR BLACK MARKETING AND RANSOM DEALS BUT TO PLACE THEMSELVES BEYOND REACH OF AUTHORITIES. POSSIBLE, ACCORDING REPORT, POLITICAL FACTIONS IN FOREIGN GOVERNMENT MIGHT BUY BOMB TO BLACKMAIL ITS WAY TO POWER.

7. NEWSWEEK HAS DOUBLE-PAGE SPREAD ON NATO: HOW MANY TROOPS ARE ENOUGH? INCLUDING DE BORCHGRAVE PIECE, WESTERN EUROPE HEDGES ITS BETS. ARTICLE SAYS SENATOR MANSFIELD'S SUPPORTERS NOW ESTIMATE THEY HAVE EVEN CHANCE OF TACKLING ON A TROOP-WITHDRAWAL AMENDMENT BEFORE YEAR'S END, ARTICLE ALSO MENTIONS JACKSON APPROVAL, AND SAYS ADMINISTRATION SEEMS GENUINELY CONCERNED ABOUT OUTLOOK AND WESTERN EUROPEANS HAVE HAMMERED OUT PLAN DESCRIBED BY DE BORCHGRAVE. ARTICLE GIVES CASE FOR CUTBACK OF TROOPS ON UNILATERAL BASIS, ALSO CASE FOR CONTINUITY, CITING RUSH'S STATEMENT ON CURRENT HIGH LEVELS OF ALLIED SUPPORT AND EUROPEAN DISMAY AT POSSIBILITY OF BIG PULLOUT. DE BORCHGRAVE SAYS FIRST WEST EUROPEAN TROOP-CUTBACK PLAN, AS OUTLINED EXCLUSIVELY TO HIM BY KEY PLANNERS, IS JOINT BELGIAN-DUTCH-BONN PROPOSAL TO BE UNVEILED AT VIENNA THIS

FALL PROVIDING 14 PERCENT CUTBACK (ABOUT 45,000 MEN) OF US FORCES IN GERMANY AND MEDITERRANEAN AND SIMILAR SOVIET CUT (60,000 SOLDIERS) IN EAST GERMANY POLAND CZECHOSLOVAKIA, PLUS 7 PERCENT CUTBACK OF OTHER FORCES IN WEST GERMANY-- BRITISH, DUTCH, CANADIAN; ALSO 7 PERCENT CUTBACK IN GROUND

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TROOPS OF BOTH EAST AND WEST GERMAN ARMIES; PLUS 7 PERCENT REDUCTION IN ARMIES OF BELGIUM AND NETHERLANDS AS WELL AS IN POLAND CZECHOSLOVAKIA. WESTERN GOVERNMENTS HOPE TO PLACATE THEIR OWN DOVES AND KEEP US REDUCTION BELOW WHAT THEY SEE AS DANGER-LINE, ALSO PRESERVE CONCEPT OF NEGOTIATED MANPOWER REDUCTIONS.

7. STEWART ALSOP CALLS HIS NEWSWEEK PAGE, BLUEPRINT FOR DISASTER, STRESSING WEAKNESS OF US VOLUNTEER ARMY, SUPERIORITY OF RUSSIAN NAVY, INTRODUCTION OF NEW SOVIET MISSILE TYPES LIKELY TO DESTABILIZE NUCLEAR BALANCE, AND CANADIAN TRUCE TEAM'S REPORT THAT NORTH VIETNAMESE HAVE BEEN CHEATING WHOLESAL ON PARIS AGREEMENT. ALSOP INVEIGHS AGAINST DEFENSE BUDGET-CUTTING PROPOSALS OF ENTIRE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT, INCLUDING WARNKE FISHER, TO SLICE ANOTHER 14 BILLION OFF OF CURRENT BUDGET.

8. NOTHING PERTINENT IN TIME MAGAZINE. ROGERS

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